RUSKIN
A PRIORY ACADEMY

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Term 2022/23 Community and SMSC

A message from the Headteacher...

A warm welcome to our end of term newsletter. Once again, Ruskin has been a hive of activity and, as has become tradition in this term, one that is characterised by a number of charitable events promoting our value of generosity. The students have been involved in a number of activities, making donations to the rotary shoe box appeal, taking part in Christmas jumper days and festive nights – and baking for our ever popular Macmillan coffee morning. Ruskin prides itself on our sense of community and we endeavour to ensure it is also a hub for the community we serve, so it was wonderful to welcome guests from Fairview Farm to the academy who were entertained by our performers and treated to a delicious meal by our hospitality students.

As we head into the festive period, I do hope that you all have time to enjoy time with family and friends. Students, maintain the generosity of spirit shown this term by continuing with acts of kindness and thoughtfulness over the holiday. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year, refreshed and ready to work hard and take every opportunity available to you at the academy.

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS!

As part of our work with the local community, Mrs Geeson, Reading Room and Community Manager, arranged for Ruskin to sponsor a tree at the St Wulfram's Christmas Tree Festival. On the 24th November a wonderful afternoon was enjoyed, assembling the display with hand crafted decorations made by a select group of students. A small group of creative staff supported Mrs Geeson with their artistic flair; a big thank you to Mrs Quine and Mrs Allsop.

The popular festival ran for 4 days where local groups, businesses, schools and individuals arranged their fabulous trees for people to enjoy.

Our themed tree of 'Christmas gonks' is now located at student reception for all to see in the countdown to Christmas. A big well done to all involved.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook for up-to-date news and events!
Twitter: @prioryruskin Facebook: The Priory Ruskin Academy

Language Kick Off!

In October, eleven Year 9 students travelled to Lincoln City Football Club to take part in a football-based languages workshop run by the Business Language Champions. Students had to use their skills to complete a variety of different tasks in German, including interviewing a player and manager, writing a press release and planning and leading a warm-up session.

We competed against other local schools and although they weren't crowned the overall winners, we were the highest scorers in three different categories! Alisha W (Yr9) received special recognition from the judges for impressing them with her leadership skills during the warm-up session. The day concluded with a Q&A session with two Lincoln City players, Lasse Sørensen and Lewis Montsma, where everyone had the opportunity to ask about their experience of learning and speaking different languages. There was also time for the students to have their football boots signed and take some pictures with the players! Well done to all the students involved; they were a credit to the academy.

BLC Business Language Champions

Business Language Champions
Bringing Schools and Businesses Together
to Promote Languages and Cultural Understanding

Level One Project Assembly

Level One Project students, in years 7 and 8, were presented with their GCSE certificates during a special assembly on Monday 28th November. Students have been working hard for 18 weeks researching topics of their choice and presenting their findings to a target audience. Topics included The American Civil War, Climate Change and The Vietnam War. Students worked to develop their research, planning and presentation skills, all of which will help as they move towards GCSE courses.

Amazing results were achieved including 14 A*s, 7 As and 1 B grade. Congratulations to the students on their fantastic achievements!

RAST Competition

We are delighted to share the success of our budding team of cadets who took place in the Royal Air Squadron Trophy (RAST) at Shuttleworth Veteran Aeroplane Society on Saturday 26th November.

The RAST is a competition for schools with CCF sections. 18 teams were involved with each team submitting a group of 15 cadets to take part in a multi-skill competition, including first aid, air rifle, RAF knowledge, command tasks and aircraft recognition.

Ruskin entered two teams, Alpha and Bravo. Alpha consisted of Cadet Warrant Officer, Stanley P (Yr13), with Year 10 and senior cadets.

Bravo consisted of Second in Command Cadet, Sergeant Jessica L (Yr13) who led the Year 9 team of cadets.

Alpha's hard work placed them 3rd in air rifle element of the competition and the young Bravo team were praised by staff for their efforts in all areas.

Flying Officer Brooks, couldn't be more proud of overall performance of the cadets and will be working with them to further improve on their skills in each element.

A touch of homemade charm!

The Priory Ruskin Academy, along with the Grantham Flower Club, held their Christmas Wreath Workshop on Tuesday 29th November. Full to the brim, the evening was a relaxing, festive activity to bring family and friends together at this time of year.

With the hands-on support of experts, beautiful additions to the home were made using ribbon, fabric, baubles, foliage and much more. Whether a novice or expert, a wonderful evening was enjoyed trying your hand at this Christmas craft and making your very own wreath to take home. Delicious treats and festive tipples helped everyone to start to enjoy the Christmas spirit.

This community event raised £105 that will be donated to the residential home, Fairview Farm. This home offers accommodation to adults with learning disabilities.

Thank you to the Grantham Flower Club for making this event a very enjoyable success. We look forward to inviting you back next year.

Storytelling Time

As part of Reading Week this term (21-25 November), our Year 13 BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts students led a series of five Storytelling Workshops for younger students in the academy, performing stories which included a mixture of Myths, Legends and Fairy Stories.

The mythical stories of Thor and Hercules and the legend of Robin Hood proved to be very popular and students were also treated to the fairy stories, Little Red Riding Hood, The Elves and the Shoemaker and The Dragon Painter. The Year 13 students also led Drama and craft activity workshops linked to the theme of stories they told, including making origami dragons and an improvising game called One Word Story. The audiences were also treated to some snacks and drinks in the interval!

Year 13 would like to thank all the students who came to the workshops and also the students in the wider school community that helped with their target market research in PA lessons and Tutor time in the preparation for their Storytelling workshops.

Oh yes he did ...

On Monday 12th December, Year 7 visited the Guildhall Arts Centre, Grantham for the Christmas production of Rapunzel. Students were eagerly involved as audience members from the off, with the lonely princess with the super long hair trapped in the tower longing for a life of adventure.
Students joined in all the singing with great energy and even showed off their dance moves to the modern sing-a-long songs.
It was wonderful to see the students mesmerised with the special effects including an incredible flying jet pack ....certainly a favourite moment for many!
This annual pantomime tradition has proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all, once again.

Budding Authors

Ruskin students were delighted to welcome award winning author, Katya Balan to the academy.

Sixth Form students studying English Literature attended a creative writing session with Katya who shared some excellent advice on expressing their creativity.

During her visit Katya inspired Year 7 students as she shared stories of her journey to becoming a writer, living off the grid and Victorian Mudlarks!

Students were also given the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of her latest novel, 'October, October'.

We are hoping this has inspired some budding authors at Ruskin.

RUSKIN'S FESTIVE FAYRE

On Thursday 1st December, Ruskin was transformed into a world of festive delights! The Great Hall was a wonderland of Christmas stalls, handmade treasures, mince pies and festive tipples. With over 30 fantastic vendors there was something for everyone, from handmade decorations, food and drink treats, clothes and pet gifts.

Along with her team of reliable helpers, Mrs Geeson, Reading Room & Community Manager, were very busy to ensure the evening went smoothly, leaving everyone feeling that bit more Christmassy!

The event raised £1035.00 with proceeds going to The Grantham Passage at this very important time of year.

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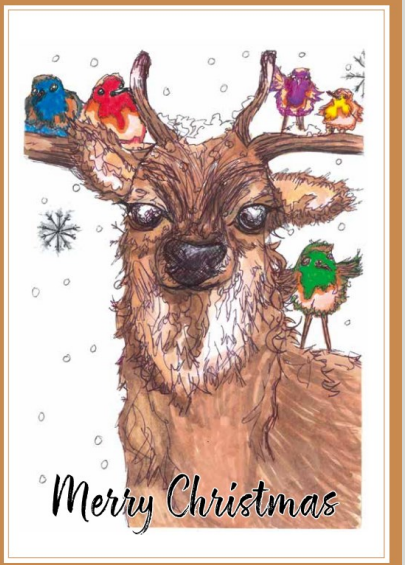
This PD Day, year 13 students took part in a fantastic Criminology workshop which started with a 999 call directly from the scene of an alleged murder. Students examined the crime scene, investigated a murder based on a real-life case and experienced a mock courtroom trial, all from within the comfort of the academy. The workshop was run by an experienced team of investigators with real life experience of murder investigation and legal degrees.

During the day, the students were introduced to a whole host of potential careers within the police, investigative agencies, forensic science, law and the wider criminal justice system.

House Christmas Card Competition

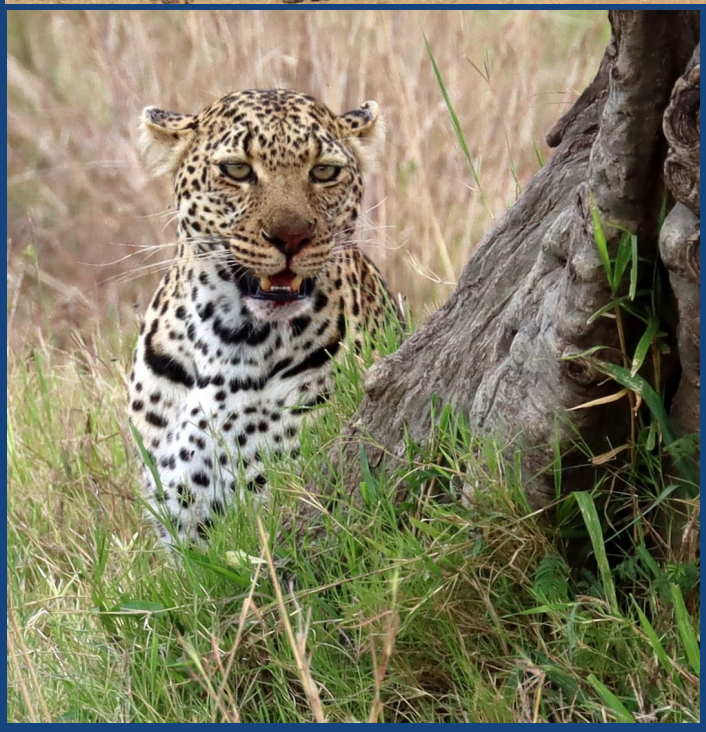


As the festive period approached, we held our ever-popular annual "design a Christmas card" competition. Now in its 3rd year, this competition invites students to show off artistic flair and produce artwork for a brilliant and creative card design. The winning entry is printed on the front of Ruskin's official Christmas card as well as receiving valuable points for their House.

Hundreds of entries from all 5 Houses were received. The quality and originality was so high that after the winning design for each House had been selected, the panel we were unable to decide between two of the entries. So for the first time ever we have two winners and two official Ruskin Christmas cards! Well done to our joint champions Alexis N (Yr10, Morris) and Ethan T (Yr8, Hockney).

Mr Briggs, Head of Morris House, said "I was so impressed at the level of talent and imagination exhibited in the entries. Thank you to all who entered and congratulations to the top House designs."

RUSKIN ON SAFARI - KENYA NOV 2022



Spectacular scenery, awe-inspiring wildlife and the friendliest most sincere people you could ever wish to meet, we had the most incredible adventure. From the lakes of the Great Rift Valley,

Nakuru and Navaisha to the world famous Masai Mara we were privileged to observe animals truly wild in their natural environments. Nothing quite prepares you for that first sighting of a huge heard of Elephants as they appear over the horizon or the tenderness you witness between a Lioness and her cubs. The colour and energy as we were welcomed into the Masai Village flooded our senses and will live in our memories forever, we laughed and cried in equal measure and Kenya is now firmly in our hearts. Until the next time.

Bev Renshaw-Turner

!WARNING!
Be Aware Of Wild Animals

6th Form News...

Meet the new House Captains!

Healthcare Careers in Lincolnshire

Year 12 Health & Social Care students visited Lincoln University on Wednesday 9th November with an aim of helping to support potential future career choices.

Staff from the NHS and care organisations across the county showcased the vast range of healthcare careers currently available in an effort to help 'grow our own' talent in Lincolnshire. The event consisted of market style stands managed by various health professionals advocating their specific roles to give expert advice and guidance to the visiting students. Careers available to explore included: mental health, nursing, ambulance and paramedic, dementia care, radiotherapy, clinical engineering, infection control and many more. There were also representatives from different education and training providers on hand to explain different pathways and entry requirements into the various careers. This included details of current job opportunities, including apprenticeships from employers across the sector.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the event, gaining knowledge which will help them to decide on future career choices within the Health and Social Care sector.

Orang-utan Foundation

On Wednesday 16th November, Year 12 students from Hepworth House took part in a cookie bake sale to raise money for the Orang-utan Foundation. Overall, the students raised a total of £75 to go towards saving the orang-utans. Thank you to everyone who supported the event and eating lots of yummy cookies to raise funds for this special Foundation.

UNIVERSITY VISIT

On Wednesday 7th December, Year 12 students enjoyed a trip to Leeds Beckett University - Headingley Campus. Students were lucky enough to experience a tour of the campus including their extensive sport facilities and the newly opened School of Arts building. .
Students listened to talks on student life in Leeds, the UCAS process and student finance. They also heard from a panel of Leeds Beckett ambassadors about living away from home for the first time.
This trip helped students to understand pathways that may await them after their sixth form studies.

Lab-coat Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in the lab-coat design competition ran by the science department. Entries had a festive theme with Morris house taking the overall prize this year.

Designed by J Wand, Morris House

House Christmas Lunches

Throughout the festive season, the very popular House Christmas lunches took place. From great roasts to pigs in blankets , this event is always a wonderful opportunity to bring each House together to enjoy a two course home cooked Christmas dinner.

The restaurant was packed each day with Ruskin Christmas spirit and a variety of festive attire!

A special thank you goes to the catering staff and sixth form helpers who worked tirelessly to ensure these House events were enjoyed by all.

FAIRVIEW FARM

On Tuesday 29th November, Fairview Farm was welcomed for a Christmas party hosted by our Hospitality and Health and Social Care students.

Residents were greeted by our very talented students who performed well-loved Christmas tunes. Everyone enjoyed a variety of festive treats as well as a programme of varied entertainment.

Students happily chattered to the visitors exchanging school day stories, whilst some even danced the afternoon away!

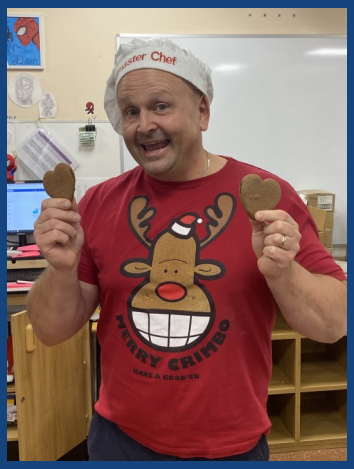
This was a joyous afternoon showing our local community Ruskin spirit at its best.

Christmas Jumper Day!

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day is always a firm, fun favourite on Ruskin's festive calendar for both students and staff. Old jumpers were dusted off and jazzed up with a little bit of sparkle, whilst others purchased a new festive show piece to take part in this event on Thursday 8th December.

Generous donations were made with amounted to over £400. A great effort.

This event always compliments the festivities happening in the Academy whilst supporting a wonderful cause and contributing to vital work with children across the UK.



Ruskin Supports .....

CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 18th November, Ruskin staff and students raised an amazing £215 for Children in Need. A very busy cake and biscuit sale was held during break time to raise money for this cause, that helps to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people around the UK.

Thank you for the generous donations of cakes for this event.

SHOE BOX APPEAL

Ruskin students supported the annual Rotary Shoebox Appeal again this year. Working in Form groups students made contributions to a box with specific donations for either boys, girls, babies or teenagers.

Supporting this scheme is our way of bringing joy to those less fortunate than us.

The Rotary Club said they were once again overwhelmed by our dedication to this charity and are grateful for the continued support.

#LestWeForget

On Remembrance Day at 11.00am, Ruskin stood in silence to honour members of the armed forces. Cadets marched with dignity and order with Stanley P (Yr13), calling the parade to attention.

Mr Finch, Deputy Headteacher and our Head Boy paid tribute to those that fought across conflicts. A two-minute silence was observed by staff and students to appreciate the sacrifices made by others.

Once again, we showed our support by wearing poppies and raising over £450 towards supporting the Royal British Legion.

THE SPORTS PAGE

October—December

This term has been a huge success, with many, house competitions and tournaments. Congratulations to our Team of the Term who had their first ever competitive fixture.

Priory Ruskin Academy Team of the Term:

U16 Boys' Volleyball Team

Miss E Dewar, Head of PE

RESULTS FROM THIS TERM:

Football: The U15 girls are going strong in the National Cup, progressing to the last 32. This is a fantastic achievement in itself as there were over 400 teams that entered the competition. The U13 girls team have had a good run in the National Cup however they got knocked out to a very strong side last week. U12, U13, U14 and U16 boys teams are still in the County Cup—with the U16 team through to the quarter finals. We have a strong attendance in football training and have fielded A and B teams in most year groups. We are hoping this level of participation continues.

Netball: We have had a busy term of netball playing fixtures in the Sisters N Sport competition and competing in the district netball tournaments. Our U15 team won the district tournament and are currently the only team left in the Sisters N Sport competition. The Year 8, 9 and 11 teams played well in the competition but were knocked out in the second round.

Rugby: This term all of our rugby teams have competed in the Newark Rugby Festivals against local schools. We have also had all year groups playing against St. George's Academy. Two teams have gone unbeaten throughout this term: the U14 Boys team who are developing well with half of the team now playing at Kesteven and the Girls U16 team who had a very dominant display at Newark Rugby Club.

Gymnastics: There are 20 students who attend gymnastics club, most training both in and out of school. At the Lincolnshire Schools Gymnastics Competition recently the U14 team came second and three of them also placed individually. In the U19 age group, two of the students placed. In January they are competing in the East Midlands regional qualifier for BSGA Milano Gymnastics and BSGA Floor and Vault.

Cross Country: Both the Junior Boys and Junior Girls teams went to the Grammar School in Leeds on 12th November to compete in a very tough regional competition, finishing 8th and 12th respectively. Over 35 students represented Ruskin at the District Cross Country at Belton House on 16th November, where a number of our students qualified for the next round in January.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

10/01/23: Y10 SiS Netball Match vs Ratcliffe College

14/01/23: Lincolnshire Schools Cross Country at Burghley House

21/01/23: U16 Boys & Girls Badminton vs Bourne Grammar

01/02/23: Year 7 Rugby at Newark RFC

25/01/23: Year 8 Rugby at Newark RFC

03/02/23: Swimarathon

04/02/23: BSGA Milano Gymnastics

04/02/23: BSGA Floor & Vault

08/02/23: U13 Girls Rugby at Newark RFC

Date TBC: U15 Girls Football Match National Cup last 32

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ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

KEY DIARY DATES FOR TERM 4 2022/23

Date	Event	Students Involved
4 January	First Day of Term	All Students
10 – 20 January	Sixth Form Exams	Years 12 & 13
12 January	Progress Evening	Year 8
w/c 16 January	Reading Week	All students
19 January	Mamma Mia Trip, London	Year 10
19 – 27 January	Sixth Form Mock Exams	Years 12 & 13
27 January	Performing Arts Exam	Year 11
30 January – 3 February	Geography Trip Hockerton Housing Project	Year 8
30 January – 3 February	Exams	Years 10 & 11
30 January – 7 February	Sixth Form Exams	Years 12 & 13
4 February	Rotary Speaks Event	Years 10, 11,, 12 & 13
9 February	Progress Evening	Year 13
10 February	End of Term	All Students

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

• Wisdom • Curiosity • Generosity • Courage • Passion